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E. D. FUNK

L. H. KERRICK

FRANK H. FUNK

FRANK H. FUNK General Manager J. DWIGHT FUNK

D. N. FUNK SECRETARY

TO THE CORN GROWERS OF AMERICA



HIS is rightly called an age of specializing and we are specialists in raising and perfecting new and improved breeds of farm seeds. The general interest taken in these farm seeds was shown by the large number of leading agriculturists who visited our farms and trial grounds during the past year and inspected our methods of corn

breeding. All of these gentlemen spoke in the highest terms of our results in improving the quality of farm crops in general.

The Funk Bros.' system of corn breeding is fully recognized and endorsed by the leading farmers and agricultural authorities throughout the United States.

Our seed corn business is thoroughly organized and systematized, each department being under the personal direction and management of a member of the company. Every detail, including the selection of our own stock seed, planting, cultivation, husking, selecting, sorting, storing and shipping, receives our personal attention.

The enormous demand for our new and im proved breeds of farm seeds is the best evidence of their quality. Our stock of seed was sold out very early last year and we returned to our customers more money than our sales amounted to because their orders could not be filled.

Our proposition to furnish pedigreed seed corn in the ear is attracting wide-spread attention.

In presenting our catalogue of farm seeds for the present season, we take this opportunity to tender our sincere thanks to all who have so generously bestowed their favors upon us in the past.

Very truly yours, FUNK BROS. SEED CO.

How the Seed Corn we sell is selected.

As the wagons come from the fields during the husking season they are driven upon one of the Little Giant Farm Dumps (we had twenty-five in use this year) to be unloaded, and as the corn is being elevated to the cribs, the seed corn is picked out and each day's selection is taken to some one of the twelve seed houses, which are located upon different portions of our farm.

Our seed houses are constructed in accordance with the latest and most mproved methods of storing, curing and drying corn. By the use of open slat floors, doors and windows, in the side walls (which may be opened or closed) and specially constructed ventilators in the roof, we produce a strong circulation of fresh air through these seed houses. The corn is stored loosely in open crates and placed in separate tiers. In this way the moisture is dried out rapidly and corn is put in a condition to withstand a very low temperature without damage. We have provided, moreover, a hot air furnace in the basement of each seed house which is fired only on damp or cold days, to keep the tempera-



the vitality will not be destroyed. Thus our seed corn never reaches the general crib, but is stored in a safe place the same day it is husked. During the winter this corn is again thoroughly inspected and re-sorted and packed into crates containing one bushel, by weight, 70 lbs. net of corn. All the fields upon our large farm are numbered and the crates grown upon each field are marked with its number. In this way we can trace any crate to the field in which it was grown.

ture above the freezing point so that

Why Funk Bros. Are Breeding Seed Corn



N 1824 Isaac Funk, Sr., settled in McLean county. Locating on the south edge of the 3000 acres of timber, later known as Funk's Grove, he entered considerable government land and soon became widely known as a successful cattle breeder and feeder. At his death Isaac Funk left an estate of 25,000 acres in one body. His eight sons all followed in the footsteps of their father, breeding and feeding cattle, hogs and sheep as a vocation, some taking up banking and politics as an avocation. Hon. L. H. Kerrick, who married

the only daughter of the family, is also widely known as a prominent breeder and feeder of Angus cattle. And now comes the third generation of thirteen brothers and cousins. They have continued the breeding and feeding of live stock, but have also gone more extensively into the raising of grains in connection with stock. Being familiar with the advantages of pure-bred live stock, it occurred to them that the improvement of grains is just as important and as practicable as the improvement of live stock. They determined to begin the scientific breeding up of farm crops on a large scale.

"And why not? Who are better equipped for this great work? The members of the second generation are noted not only as successful farmers, but as ranch owners, bankers and merchants. The



Isaac Funk, Sr.

third generation is composed of strong, well educated young men, most of them with considerable experience in business. Graduates of the leading colleges, they now have the added equipment of a thorough practical knowledge of agricultural and business operations. They are thoroughly imbued with the importance of breeding field crops true to a type of increased productiveness."

-Orange Judd Farmer.

25,000 Acres of Rich Land in One Body,

furnish unequalled facilities for isolating breeding plots and for growing pure seed in large quantities. The Funk brothers decided that **increased yield and quality must be secured** and a system of breeding was worked out on **scientific lines**. Being live stock breeders, familiar with what had been done to improve farm animals, Funk Bros. adopted methods much have those used for building up their herds. Of course these methods were modified to fit plant conditions.

The idea is to breed up the average size of the ear, eliminate barren and inferior stalks, which produce only nubbins, and increase the amount of oil and protein in corn for feeding purposes.

A special breeding plot is provided for each special purpose. For instance in one plot a high percentage of oil is striven for. In another a high percentage of protein. In all the attempt has been not to increase the yield by breeding for a few ears of large size, but to have all the ears of good size and uniformity, and secure a high yield of shelled grain per acre.

When the corn from a breeding plot is harvested, only the seed from the ears producing a very high yield is retained. And it is only from the very best of these ears that the seed for the breeding plots of the next year is selected. The remaining good ears are used for planting in the general fields,

the acreage of pure bred varieties of field corn aggregating annually about 8,000. The Funk Broshave met with greater success in breeding up the yield and feeding value of corn than they anticipated. Although they have spent considerable money in this work, they have been more than repaid, simply in the increased yield of their own fields.

How We Breed Seed Corn.

Advancement, progress, development, in live stock or horticulture, have been obtained only by some systematic plan of breeding, breeding more or less difficult depending upon the end desired and upon the thing under development. Every system of breeding, from the most simple to the most intense,

has as its foundation the old and established fact, that "like produces like." In corn breeding, this fundamental motto governs all selections. Our selections are such that they result only in the "survival of the fittest."

These breeding blocks are small plots of ground of from five to ten acres in extent, scattered over our farms. Their location was not defined by convenience or richness of the soil, but they were placed exactly where they received the most complete Isolation. Some are located in the very heart of the timber, some along the edge, and others in the center of the great pasture lands, and all of these out of the way places were selected simply to keep other corn from blowing over and mixing with this especially bred corn.

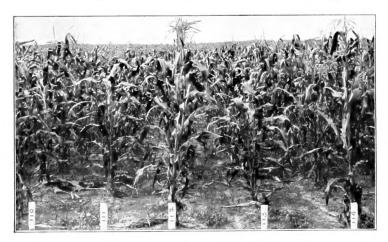
We have **twenty breeding blocks** containing on an average of 100 rows, fifty rods long. Each one of these rows is planted from a single ear. The rows are all numbered as well as the ears, and



Seed Ears of 1903.

the row number is set down in the record of each ear. We prepare the seed beds for the breeding blocks with great care and plant exactly three kernels to the hill, checked exactly 3 ft. 6 in. each way.

As is well known, the male portion of the corn is the tassel, the ear being the female part. From every kernel on an ear, there runs a silk out past the ends of the husks. The pollen from the tassels falls upon these silks which are hollow like hairs, dissolves and permeates the silks. Then it follows this hollow channel to the end of the silk where the kernel is to be formed. There fertilization takes place and the kernel is produced. This process must be gone through with for every kernel or else there will be no formation of a grain. The season for the pollen to fly, and for the silks to receive it, is during the month of July and the first part of August. Before this period comes on, every barren and inferior stalk in all our breeding blocks is removed or detasseled, so only the fruitful and hearty stalks remain. This elimination insures that every kernel in the breeding blocks has been pollenated by a fruitful and vigorous stock. Each row is harvested by itself, everything from the largest ear to



the smallest nubbin is shucked and weighed. The entire yield is taken in pounds. The ears are then counted giving average weight of ears. Just before harvesting the breeding block, the actual number of hills were counted in each row. By having the total vield and exact number of hills, we find the average of each hill in corn production, there being 3,556 hills to an acre. From this we compute the yield such an ear would make per acre. Some ears having great prepotency (that is, the power to reproduce ears resembling in size and shape the parent), make extraordinary large

Numbered Rows Planted from Single Ears.

yields, while others with low prepotency make only ordinary yields. The yield per acre, that each ear has made, forms our basis for the selection for the coming year. The ears for each breeding block for next year are selected only from the ten rows giving the highest yield per acre. These ears are the best of the ten champion rows.

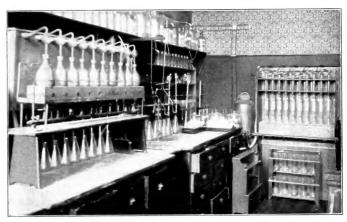
Seed for our general fields is selected only from rows giving the highest yield per acre. And then it is only the cream of the general fields which is selected for seed corn, to go on the market. We have annually about 8,000 acres in corn. From our general fields, about five per cent is selected for our high bred seed corn, which we send in the ear in bushel crates. There are many small details and technicalities performed which must be left out of our description but which are essentials in the successful breeding of corn.



Detasseling weak and barren stalks.

Look at the Chemical Improvement.

You have seen how we breed up the physical side of corn. Chemical improvement is only going a step further for the benefit of the feeder. To carry on this feature of corn breeding, expert chemical knowledge is required. We fitted up a complete laboratory of our own, sparing no expense to make it



Funk Bros.' Chemical Laboratory.

the most complete corn analysis laboratory in the world. **Dr. R. O. Graham,** of the Illinois Wesleyan University is our chief chemist.

An ear, to be planted in our chemical breeding blocks, must not only be a champion ear in the yield test, but it must also test higher in protein or oil than the seed from which it was grown. Although the chemical breeding of corn is a later feature with us, it is extremely important. Protein is the nitrogenous substance contained in corn. It is the fundamental food required by growing stock for the development of the muscles, bone, tissue and hide of their bodies. Protein is essential in the production of marble beef and bacon

hogs. Oil, the fatty part of corn, is more generally understood by feeders in general. They know that ordinary corn contains a large amount of fat and that nothing will fatten and finish steers and hogs so well as corn-oil—that is, nothing unless it is more corn-oil. And this is the reason we are breeding up oil in corn. See prices on page 8 for high oil or high protein corn.

Specialties We Are Breeding.

Corn that will produce 100 or more bushels per acre, 70 lbs. per bushel in the ear.

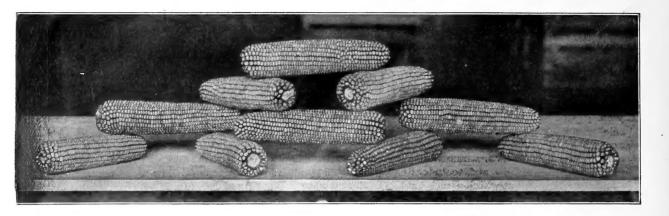
High oil and high protein for general feeding.

High oil with low protein for glucose factories.

High protein, without changing the normal amount of oil to obtain a balanced ration for fancy beef and for bacon hogs.

High protein with low oil for growing cattle and for young stock.

We are striving to secure a corn, two bushels of which will do as much towards developing farm animals as three of ordinary corn. This will increase the feeders capacity 50 per cent. This is how we raise more steers to the acre.



Funk's Yellow Dent.

Funk's Yellow Dent

BRED FROM REID'S YELLOW DENT

With all the good characteristics of the Original Reid and Our Valuable Improvements

INCREASED YIELD, PRE-POTENCY, PROTEIN, OIL

Description.



HIS corn is light golden in color, very characteristic of this variety. The ears are 9 to 11 inches long, 7 to 8 inches in circumference, 18 to 24 rows of kernels, each row containing 50 to 60 kernels. The ears are cylindrical from butt to tip. The cob is completely covered with solid corn, shelling 88 per cent grain and often better. The ears of this variety are **remarkably uniform.** In this respect it is markedly superior to all other corn. The kernels are moderately rough, rather narrow, medium in thickness, wedge shape, setting very closely together with no lost space between the rows. A wagon load of this corn will weigh more than a load of any other variety. The cob is red in color, medium to small, with small shank, making it very easy to shuck. The corn is a vigorous grower, with stalks 8 to 12 feet high, heavy below the ear, moderate above and

does not blow down easily. It has an abundance of foliage, each stalk bearing 16 to 18 dark green, glossy leaves. This makes it an excellent fodder and ensilage plant, producing a heavy tonnage to the acre. When cut and put in the shock it cures completely, retaining its natural green color, becoming the very best of fodder.

We have bred this corn up in oil and protein until it approaches a balanced ration. By careful selection, elimination of barren and weak stalks, the corn has been so improved that a yield of 90 to 100 bushels an acre can be grown on good soil carefully managed.

Funk's Yellow Dent Is Incomparable.

Its solidity, uniformity, development of tip and butt and extraordinary yield, place it in the king row of the farmer's esteem. Its prepotency or power of reproduction is so great that neither wet nor dry weather noticeably influencesits growth and maturity. Inapproachable as a yielder, it withstands

See prices on page 12.



A stalk of Funk's Yellow Dent.

the harshest weather, and when shelled more of this corn grades No. 2 on the Chicago market than any other variety. This alone sometimes means from 2 to 20 cents per bushel premium over ordinary corn.

This corn grows best on the rich corn soils of the corn belt states. It is here that it attains its greatest perfection, producing the

largest yield, of the highest quality. It matures in 112 to 115 days and can safely be planted as far north as southern Wisconsin and as far south as southern Missouri. It is a medium maturing variety. The small cob dries out readily and it can be husked and cribbed early.

Remember.

A bushel of seed corn will plant 6 or 7 acres of land. A bushel of seed corn n the ear costs \$3.00.

The cost per acre is about 45 cents for seed corn.

The cost is nominal and if your yield is increased a bushel or more you get back the price of your seed.

Three of our varieties this year have yielded on our own farms more than 100 bushels per acre, by actual weight, field run.

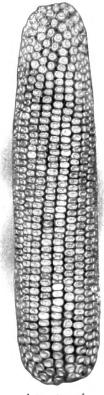
The cost per acre for seed oats is about \$1.00, which is more than twice the cost per acre for our seed corn.

At the Illinois State Fair of 1903, Funk Bros. Seed Company took premiums on their entries in the following classes:

Best yellow bushel in the world, Funk's Yellow Dent.

Best yellow bushel in Illinois, Funk's Yellow Dent. Best white bushel in the world, Boone County Special.

Golden Eagle.
Gold Standard Learning.
Funk's Yellow Dent.



A true type of Funk's Yellow Dent.

Notice the Wonderful Performance Record of One Mother Ear of Funk's Yellow Dent.

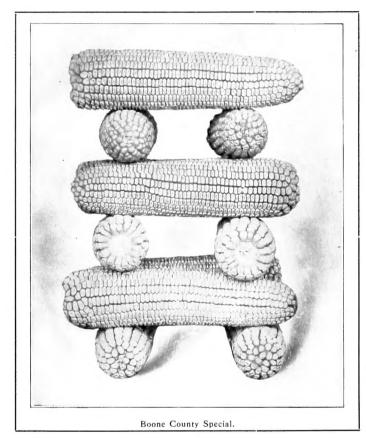
1902	2	1903									
Breeding Block Record Ears planted in single rows.	Rate of Yield per acre in busnels of 70 lbs.	Breeding Block Record Ears planted in single rows from Dams of 1902.	Rate Yield per acre in bushels of 70 lbs.	Multiplying Record Planted in 5 acre plots from Dams of 1992.	Rate Yield per acre in bushels of 70 lbs.						
Ear No. 99	80 bushels	Ear No. 796 Ear No. 806 Ear No. 810 Ear No. 812 Ear No. 813 Ear No. 1025	111 bushels 103 bushels 102 bushels 102 bushels	Plot No. 10, Planted from progeny of Ear No. 99.	99½ bushels						

Boone County Special

BRED FROM BOONE COUNTY WHITE

Retaining all the Valuable Characteristics of the parent with Increased Yield, Size of Ear, Depth of

Kernel and Chemical Content





HIGHLY-BRED white corn of extra large size, containing a high percentage of oil. It is a medium late maturing variety, requiring 120 days for full development, the ears are from 9 to 12 inches long, 7½ to 8½ inches in circumference, containing 18 to 24

rows with 52 to 58 kernels in each row and weighing from 10 to 18 ounces. The cob is medium to large and pure white in color. The ear shank is medium. The ears resemble a cylinder, rounding off within an inch of the tip. Why is a cylindrical ear superior to a tapering ear? A tapering ear means the dropping of several rows where the taper begins. This is a loss of just that much The butts and tips are exceptionally well filled. The ears are of uniform appearance, shape and size. The kernels are pearly white, moderately rough, very deep, with fine large germ. The great depth of kernel always insures a large percentage of shelled corn. The conformation of stalk is very effective in withstanding the destructive effect of high winds. The foliage is abundant, leaves broad, thick and succulent, curing into large quantities of peerless fodder.

THE CORN FOR ALL KINDS OF SOILS AND SEASONS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN ILLINOIS AND LIKE LATITUDES EAST AND WEST.

BY LONG AND CAREFUL BREEDING the number of unproductive and weak stalks has been reduced to the minimum and the average size of the ears increased to the maximum. As a result of this painstaking, scientific work BOONE COUNTY SPECIAL IS THE GREATEST YIELDING CORN KNOWN.

Best Corn for Old Fields.

Plant white corn on old fields. It gathers more of its plant food from the air and less from the soil than does yellow corn. For this reason **Boone County Special** is particularly valuable for the older corn states like Missouri, Illinois and Indiana, where it has been found productive and prolific.

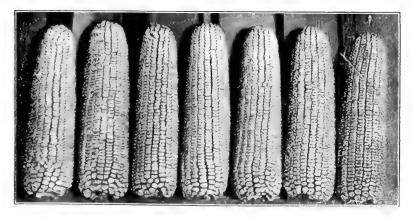
Our Motto in Breeding this Corn is "For Every Stalk To Do Its Part."



Part of the Progeny of Ear No. 641, grown from Dam No. 24.

This has been accomplished by careful work during the growing season, eliminating barren and defective stalks, cutting out all except those which produce standard ears. Persistence along this line has resulted in a wonderful prepotency in this respect.

190	2	1903										
Breeding Block Ear planted in single row.	Yield Record per acre of 10 lbs. per bu.	Best Ears selected from Champion Dams of 1902 and planted in single row breeding blocks.	Yield Record per acre of 70 lbs. per bu.	Multiplying plots olanted from Champion Dams 1902 under ordin- ary field conditions.								
Ear No. 120	. 91 bushels	Ear No. 631 Ear No. 625 Ear No. 620 Ear No. 623 Ear No. 628	144 bushels 117 bushels 126 bushels	Plot No. 3, 5 acres. 105 bushels								
Ear No. 24	94 bushels	Ear No. 633 Ear No. 637 Ear No. 639 Ear No. 636 Ear No. 641.	123 bushels 93 bushels 116 bushels 118 bushels	Plot No. 1, 10 acres 101 bushels								



Seven Ears showing the uniform type of the Progeny of Ear No. 625 grown from Dam No. 120.

High Protein or High Oil Seed Corn for Sale.

We offer this season a limited amount of field seed corn, raised in our chemical breeding blocks. The seed ears from which this corn was raised, were the highest in protein or oil of over 2,000 samples analyzed in our corn laboratory. These ears were also the champion dams of 1902 in yield. The barren stalks in these chemical breeding blocks were carefully detasseled. The object of increasing oil and protein in corn is to procure a balanced ration. Average field corn analyzes about 4 per cent in oil and about 10 per cent in protein. Authorities on stock feeding agree that a food containing 87½ per cent of carbids to 12½ per cent of proteids is the proper **balanced** ration. Nearly all the contents of corn, other than protein, is carbids. Notice how nearly a balanced ration, our protein corn approaches. We offer protein or oil corn of the following varieties, at \$5.00 per bushel, bags free. This corn is shelled and carefully hand butted and tipped and thoroughly screened. The analysis of a composite sample of each of our chemical breeding blocks, shows as follows:

Funk's Yellow Dent—
Funk's Yellow Dent—
Boone County Special—
Boone County Special—
Boone County Special—
Breeding block No. 13, tested 4.80 per cent in oil.
Breeding block No. 4, tested 5.33 per cent in oil.
Breeding block No. 7, tested 11.94 per cent in protein.
Gold Standard Leaming—Breeding block No. 8, tested 11.53 per cent in protein.
Gold Standard Leaming—Breeding block No. 1, tested 5.68 per cent in oil.
Gold Standard Leaming—Breeding block No. 2, tested 10.77 per cent in protein and 5.02 per cent in oil, high combination.

When ordering state from which breeding block you wantaseed,

Send in Your Seed Corn for Analysis.

In order that the farmer of the corn belt may get a profitable return on his high priced land, he should embrace every opportunity to increase his revenue from the same. Since the proposition that the feeding value of field corn can be increased by seed selection, is accepted as a fact, a great many farmers desire to breed corn that is high in oil or protein. During the past season, we received a large number of requests to analyze samples of corn. We are prepared this year to accommodate our patrons and can analyze a limited number of their samples. Having the most complete private corn laboratory in the world we are in a position to make very careful and accurate analyses of samples of corn at reasonable prices. We will therefore make a limited number of analyses at the following rates:

A composite sample should consist of two kernels from each of about 100 ears. Samples from single ears should consist of two rows of kernels, from butt to tip, from each ear. Carefully number each ear and place the sample from this ear in a separate envelope, marked plainly with the same number. Also state whether analysis is wanted for oil or protein. Be sure and seal each envelope securely and mark the package plainly with your name and address. See page 3 for description.

Our Reputation and Future Business Depends Upon: Good Seeds, Good Results.

We want our customers to be our **friends.** Some varieties of corn are better adapted to certain conditions of soil and climate than others, and we would deem it a favor if you would write us concerning your success or failure. Thus we may keep in touch with, and become better posted for the benefit of our future patrons. If a purchaser procures seed from us, and for some reason should meet with a failure, we may never know it, but we are as anxious to hear from him as the one who meets with success—thus we may be able to learn the cause of his failure and assist him in avoiding further loss in the future. Those who are successful we feel sure are willing to impart the information for our benefit and encouragement to continue in this **great work of breeding farm seeds.**

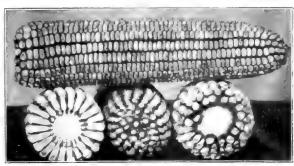
Previous to packing for shipping, samples from each variety of corn, oats and other seeds are carefully tested for germination, but we do not give any guarantee either expressed or implied. We request that our customers, upon receipt of seed corn and other seeds, will immediately open the crates, sacks or packages, examine contents carefully and if not found entirely satisfactory, repack and return the same to us in original packages and we will return money paid for same.

Funk's 90 Day.

During the spring of 1892, we obtained from the Illinois College of Agriculture, an early yellow corn called at that time, the Little Murdock corn. It was advertised as maturing within 85 to 100 days. We have been breeding and improving this corn both in yield and uniformity and now offer it to the public as Funk's 90 Day.

It is the earliest yellow corn that we have been able to secure that will maintain a reasonably high yield to the acre.

During the years of 1898, 1899 and 1900, our average yield of this corn was 60 bushels per acre. In 1902 and 1903 about 65 bushels per acre, field

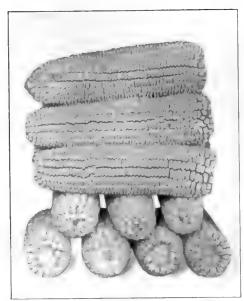


Funk's 90 Day.

run. We commenced feeding Funk's 90 Day corn to our cattle this year on September 1, and selected seed at the same time for next year's crop. The demand for this early corn from the north and south, for early cattle feeding and for late planting in the drowned out districts, is likely to exhaust our supply almost before this catalogue is issued as was the case last year, and attests the popularity of this, the Leading Early Field Corn on the Market.

This is a medium sized Yellow Dent variety, with deep oily grain and small cob; and is a heavy yielder, shells out well and of the best quality. The seed produces strong, vigorous stalks which are medium in height, and not easily blown down. It is certain to yield more in value than any other early variety. It is especially recommended for the first planting (for early feed, etc.,) and the last planting in the southern and middle states and for all purposes in the more northern. For prices, see Page 12.

Silver King, Bred from Silver Mine.



Silver King Corn.

POINTS WE ARE BREEDING INTO THIS VARIETY.—Lengthening Kernel, Improving Butt, Closing Up Space Between Rows, Increasing the Oil and Increasing the Yield.

This is a pure white corn with white cob. The kernel is especially broad and deep, with well developed and vigorous germ, forming a perfectly cylindrical ear, with corn all the way round and up and down, shelling 90 per cent of grain. The ears are of good size with well filled butts and tips, having a uniformly wide, deep kernel. The stalks are rather short and heavy, averaging from 8 to 11 feet in height, with a large amount of foliage. This corn grows anywhere and is especially well adapted to the northern part of the corn belt, maturing in about 105 days. The ears are compact with a small cob for a white corn. They dry out readily and thus escape early frosts. Farmers in northern Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, South Dakota. Southern Minnesota and Michigan will find this variety well suited to their conditions of soil and climate. The entire plant being of medium size, with heavy, foliage, is a favorite with growers who cut and shock their crop. For prices, see page 12.

Gold Standard Leaming



Gold Standard Learning-The Feeder's Corn.

Bred from the Original

Leaming

We have increased the size of ears and percentage of grain by breeding from tapering to cylindrical shape. We have also increased depth and roughness of kernel and feeding value by increase of protein and oil.

This Is the Oldest Distinct Variety of Corn Having Been Originated in 1826.

Since then it has been carefully bred to a rich, deep golden color, to a greater uniformity, to large. slightly tapering or cylindrical ears, well filled at the butt and tip. The ears range from 9 to 11 inches long and from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 inches in circumference, weighing from 12 to 17 ounces each. Each ear has from 16 to 24 rows of kernels with the minimum space between the rows, which have broad, deep, thick kernels. The kernels are set on a red cob of medium size, with medium large ear shank. The percentage of grain is high—86 to 90 per cent. The stalks range from 9 to 12 feet in height, are well developed below the ear and slender above. They are very valuable for forage and are especially prized for ensilage. The great abundance and large size of leaves, the fine quality of leaves and stalk, the large proportion of sugar in every part of the plant, result in sweet, palatable ensilage and corn fodder if the crop is to be preserved in the silo or in the field.

190	2	1903									
Breeding Block Ear planted in single row.	Yield Record per acre of 70 lbs. per bu.	Best Ears selected from Champion Dams of 1902 and planted in single row breeding blocks.	Multiplying plots planted from Champion Dams 1902 under ordin- ary field conditions.	Yield Record per acre of 70 lbs. per bu.							
Ear No. 645	90 bushels	Ear No. 753 106 bushels Ear No. 755 117½ bushels Ear No. 751 103 bushels	Plot No. 7, 10 acres	98 bushels							
Ear No. 676	93 bushels	Far No. 745 97 bushels	Plot No. 5, 10 acres	94 bushels							

The Ideal Feeder's Corn.

It contains more protein and oil than any other variety grown. Not only is the chemical composition ideal from a feeder's standpoint, but it is especially palatable and digestible for growing and fattening animals. All kinds of stock like it. Its digestibility is very high, the minimum amount passing through fattening steers undigested. It is more completely assimilated in the animal's stomach than any other corn. Its chemical composition is such that an animal can consume and assimilate larger quantities than of any other variety. Four bushels of GOLD STANDARD LEAMING will put as much fat on a hog or steer as five of ordinary corn. We have not only bred this corn to increase the feeding value, but also to secure an extraordinary yield.

Feeders, It Will Pay You to Get Our Seed.

We are farmers and feeders ourselves. We always have been, we always will be. We started to breed corn to increase our yields.

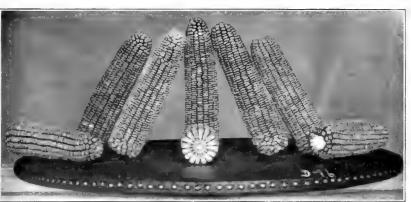
This corn matures in about 115 days. It can be grown in any latitude south of southern Wisconsin.

No Other Corn Adapts Itself so Readily to Local Conditions.

Golden Eagle.

A deep pure yellow corn with characteristic red cob. The ears are uniform, 8 to 10 inches long, 7 to 8 inches in circumference, cylindrical with well filled butts and exceedingly well developed tips. The kernels are rough, deep, broad wedge and uniform. One of the chief characteristics of Golden Eagle is its large percentage of grain in which respect it exceeds any other variety. The average is about 90, often above. The very small, red cob. deep kernel and perfect cylindrical shape makes this high average possible. Each ear contains 16 to 18 rows of kernels and each row 50 to 60 kernels.

This is an early variety, maturing in about 105 days. It is an especially desirable



vellow corn for northern latitudes of the corn belt. It grows well on almost any soil. It can be

Gold Standard Leaming.

planted early for starting Christmas beeves around September 1. It is used extensively as a replant corn and is especially desirable for flelds which for some reason have to be planted late. It stands high with feeders because of the small cob. It is easily broken and readily masticated by steers. As it

matures thoroughly it is **sweet** and **palatable**, making the **very best** grain fed. The stalk is rather light, short and well developed. The foliage is abundant. The well developed roots, strong and wiry stalks, enable it to stand up well even during windy seasons. When mature the husks are loose, dropping away from the ear. Considering the size of the ear it is a surprisingly good yielder, due to the fact that a great many of the stalks bear two ears. Every stockman should have at least a small acreage of Golden Eagle corn for early feed as in this respect it has no peer. For prices see page 12.



Endorsement of Experts



W. A. HENRY, Dean Wisconsin College of Agriculture.

Your company is entitled to great credit for inaugurating a most important movement. I trust that progressive farmers, desirous of improving the quality and quantity of corn they grow, will make a liberal use of the choice seed which you are able to produce. I have visited some of the choice seed farms of the Old World and assure you that I hail with delight the inception of this enterprise by your company, which from the beginning takes rank with the best.

E. DAVENPORT, Dean of the Illinois College of Agriculture.

I want to express the interest I feel in your great enterprise of breeding seed corn. Your plan of selling upon the ear is not only the best guarantee to the public of the quality of the corn, but it is also the best index of the progress you are making in breeding. The only fault I could find with your plan is that your price for such corn is not sufficient to cover the cost of its production and leave a fair margin of profit. This is the beginning of what may some day make your name and estate as famous in the world as have become those of the Vilmorins of

C. F. CURTISS, Director of Agriculture lowa State College.

I feel certain that our corn crop is destined to undergo radical changes in the near future and that such changes must come largely from the kind of efforts you have inaugurated in a systematic way on a large sca e, where you have opportunity to select the best types, keep them pure and establish them in their characteristics in such a way that they can be relied upon to produce crops of heavier yield and superior quality, thereby enhancing both the commercial and feeding value of this great crop which means so much to the success of American agriculture.

A. D. SHAMEL, Agricultural Department, Washington, D.C.

I believe that the establishment of the Funk Bros, Seed Company marks the beginning of a new epoch in the production of crops in the United States. I know that the work has been done in the most thorough and scientific manner possible and under exceptionally favorable conditions for the improvement of the varieties of corn.

F. W. TAYLOR, Chief of Agricultural Department St. Louis World's Fair.

It seems almost unbelievable that for so many years the hit or miss method of selecting the seed from which to grow corn to the value of many millions of dollars annually, should have prevailed. The systematic and thoroughly scientific way in which you are proceeding in the method of selection and growth, will add millions of dollars to the receipts from the sale of each crop. What you are doing for agriculture

CYRIL G. HOPKINS, Head of Department of Agronomy and Chemistry, University of Ill.

The work which is being done in corn breeding by the Funk Bros." Seed Company furnishes one of the greatest, if not the greatest, illustra-tion of the practical application of science to American agriculture. They have adopted the scientific principles and accurate methods which have been discovered and most carefully tested by the Illinois Experiment Station and adopted by the Illinois seed Corn Breeders' Association. They have applied these methods with a high degree to exactness and on a scale of great magnitude, and they are following this work up with such care and accuracy in all its details that their efforts are already showing some marked effects, the ultimate results of which will certainly be a very great improvement of the best varieties of corn which now exist, and not only in yield per acre, but in uniformity, quality and composition,

How to Order.

Please be careful to write your name, postoffice, county and state very plainly on each order that you send. Remittance must accompany each order. Money can be sent safely either by postoffice order, bank draft, express order, or the cash by registered letter. Loose money is not safe. not send personal checks. No goods sent C. O. D.

Please write each item of your order on a separate line and carry out the correct prices. Keep a copy of your order, with which to check off the goods when received, to be sure that you receive just what you order. We seldom make a mistake, but if we do, notify us immediately, giving your order number, so it can be corrected.

Correspondence—We have endeavored to make everything as plain as possible in this catalogue, but in case further information is desired, make your wants known in as few words as possible and on a sheet of paper separate from your order, giving your complete address and enclosing stamp for reply.

Please order early. Some of our varieties were sold out by March 1st last year.

Be sure to use our order blank and carefully fill out all required blanks. We take much pride in promptness and accuracy in filling orders.

Owing to the atraordinary Prices of Field Seed Corn. are sellent of all va

Any variety, in the ear, \$3.00 per bushel, 70 lbs. net. Any variety, shelled, \$2.00 per bushel, 56 lbs. net.

Crates and bags free.

We regard the yielding qualities of PUNK'SU Seed YELLOW DENT, BOONE COUNTY SPECIAL and GOLD STANDARD LEAMING about equal

The shelled corn consists of the best seed from the fields from which the ear corn has been selected. The shelled corn is carefully butted and tipped and thoroughly screened through our latest and most improved machinery.

Our ear corn is all shipped in crates holding exactly one bushel (by weight), 70 lbs. net of corn. No order for ear corn will be accepted for any crate to contain fractional parts of a bushel-

No order for ear corn will be accepted for any crate to contain more than one variety.

The receipt of your order will be acknowledged. Bill of lading will be sent on all shipments of field seeds.

Our EAR CORN is all packed in crates holding exactly one bushel (by weight), 70 lbs. net, of one variety of corn. You can readily see that we cannot split crates or send more than one variety in a crate.

Corn is the Greatest Money Earner yet introduced to the American Farmer. Could there be anything of greater importance than Increasing Its Yield?



Field of Dwarf Essex Rape.

Dwarf Essex Rape

Imported by us =

DIRECT FROM ESSEX COUNTY, ENGLAND THE MOST FAMOUS AND POPULAR FORACE CROP OF AMERICA



HIS extraordinary plant produces broad, succulent leaves on a central stock. It is on these leaves that the hog, sheep, or steer thrives and grows. There is no crop so easily and cheaply produced. most profitable use of this forage plant is to sow it with oats. The oats act as a nurse crop, keeping the rape dwarfed so that at cutting time by setting the binder a trifle high it makes no trouble. After

the oats are cut then it is that the rapid and abundant growth of the rape takes place. From the cutting of oats until winter sets in, a palatable and nourishing food is supplied, and its abundance is remarkable. Sheep are made ready for market quickly, while hogs will thrive upon it remarkably well. The advantage of sowing it with oats rather than in corn is that it is available for pasture much sooner. Nothing excels rape for an early forage for pigs. Unused lots and out of the way places on the farm can be made to

pay well by sowing in rape. "Every farmer who has pigs, sheep and young stock should plan to grow a patch of rape each year."-W. A. HENRY, Breeder's Gazette, Nov. 19, 1903.

One acre of well grown rape will furnish pasture for ten or twenty head of sheep for two months, and in that time it will fatten them in good form for the market. Dwarf Essex Rape thrives best on good soil, rich in vegetable matter. Slough lands are excellent.

This plant may be grown successfully in the following ways, viz: 1. In the early spring to provide pasture for sheep and swine. 2. in June or July on well prepared land to provide pasture for sheep. 3. along with grain, using 2 lbs, of seed per acre, to provide pasture for sheep after harvest. 4. Along with peas, oats, clover seed, to provide pasture for sheep and to get a "catch" of clover. 5. Along with corn, drilled in broadcast, to provide pasture for sheep. 6. In corn, sowing the seed with the last cultivation given to corn. Along with rye, sown in August, in sheep pasture. When rape is sown broadcast, 5 lbs, of seed per acre will suffice. When sown in rows, say 30 inches apart, and cultivated from 1 to 2 lbs, will be enough. It is now being grown in the northern and middle states from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Send to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for Free Bulletin No. 164 on "Rape as a Forage Crop."

The Most Conveniently Grown. The Greatest Amount of Food. Rape is the Cheapest and Best Forage Crop in the World. PRICES—i lb. postpaid 30c; 2 lbs. postpaid 50c; 3 lbs. postpaid 75c. 25 lbs. \$1.50, 100 or more 5c lb. Bags Free.

ALFALFA SEED.

We offer for sale, a select lot of prime. Kansas grown Alfalfa seed, of highest germinating quality; recleaned and free We offer for sale, a select lot of prime. Kansas grown Alfalfa seed, or nignest germinating quanty; recleaned and tree from noxious weeds. Seed grown from Utah, Colorado and other irrigated alf. offa is offered on the market at a lower price than ours; such seed, however, is not suitable to the great Mississippi Valley and we desire to caution our customers against the use of the same. Our seed is the best lot offered us by a large number of growers. We desire to impress upon our patrons, the benefits to be derived from growing this great forage crop. It has been demonstrated beyond a doubt that alfalfa can be grown in the Corn Belt of the Mississippi Valley. We have been growing it upon our own farm in Illinois for a number of years with success and profit, and there is no reason why you should not try at least a small acreage and be convinced of its great value. It is a perennial,—that is, it grows from the root and after once securing a good stand, the same roots will produce crops for ten or fifteen years. From three to five crops of hay can be cut in good seasons.

We append a few extracts from Bulletin 78, Illinois Experiment Station: "It is undoubtedly the most profitable for age crop that grows, producing profitable crops of excellent hay; makes splendid pasture and is effective as a soil restorer by reason of its deep rooting system and its power (when supplied with proper bacteria) to secure large quantities of that valuable element, Nitrogen, from the air. Alfalfa hay is harvested and cured in about the same manner as Red Clover and should be fed to animals, and pastured with the same care exercised with Red Clover." Send to the U. S. Department of Agriculture for Free Bulletin No. 31 on "Alfalfa," also to Illinois Experiment Station for Bulletin No. 76, "Alfalfa on Illinois Soil."

Sow broadcast in April or May on good, rich soil, about 20 pounds per acre, cover about one-half inch deep with light harrow and apply 50 to 100 pounds per acre, of soil thoroughly infected with Alfalfa bacteria. Fall seeding has also been a success with us, using a press wheat drill. Mix the alfalfa with bran or sawdust and drill 10 lbs. per acre, both ways.

The test for purity, of a sample of our alfalfa seed showed: 97.42% pure alfalfa seed.

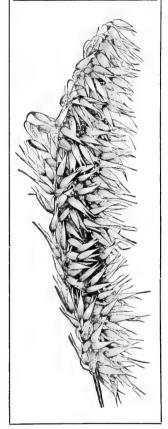
97.42% pure alfalfa seed. 2,58% inert matter.

100.00%. No foreign seeds:

PRICES ON ALFALFA SEED JANUARY 1, 1904. These prices are subject to material market fluctuation,

20 lbs., sufficient for one acre, \$4.00; 40 lbs., sufficient for two acres, \$7.50; 60 lbs., (one bushel) sufficient for three acres \$9.00 Bags 15 cents. Write for special price on larger quantities.

Seed Oats



OUR SEED OATS ARE CROWN UPON OUR OWN FARMS

And are Entirely Free from Mustard and Other Noxious Weeds. We Thoroughly Fan and Screen all Our Seed Oats, Removing All Dirt, Short Straws and Other Foreign Matter by Screening and Blowing Out all the Light Oats by a Strong Suction Blast. WE HAVE THE LATEST AND MOST IMPROVED MACHINERY FOR CLEANING OATS AND OTHER SEEDS

Big Four Oats.

This well known variety has been grown by us for several years and has proven very satisfactory, both as a yielder and because of its early maturity. It has a large, plump, white kernel. This variety tests high in weight. The straw is short and stiff and does not lodge easily. The seed produces strong vigorous plants which outstrip the most thrifty weeds in growth. This is one of the largest yielding early oats we have ever raised.

Early Champion Oats.

This is one of the new varieties and has returned very profitable results to farmers. In our field test of twelve varieties the Early Champion was found to be the earliest. It gave the largest yield per acre of any variety in the test at the Iowa Agricultural College and is highly recommended by them. Has comparatively short stiff straw, matures a week or ten days earlier than other kinds, thus largely escaping the liability to rust. Its greatest value lies in its special adaptability as a nurse crop to sow with grass seed, as it does not stool as freely as some other sorts and will not lodge on rich land. Henry Wallace, editor of Wallaces' Farmer, says: "I would rather risk growing grass seed with this variety than any other I know of."

Great Dakota Oats. Originated in the Far North.

The Great Dakota Oats originated in the far north. Great Dakota Oats are white. Their foliage is abundant and affords a remarkable quantity and quality of straw. They are a very heavy variety, often weighing 40 pounds to the measured bushel. These oats are medium early in maturity. In our latitude they ripen at the most opportune time of the average season. If planted the first or second week in April they ripen about the 10th

of July. At this time, generally speaking, comes the finest harvest weather of our year. They are called "Great" for many reasons:

The "Great" white berries are well named, for their size is such that in this respect they have no equal. "Great" in yield, for which they are justly noted. This, their yield, is the "greatest" of their many good qualities.

The strength of their stalk makes them great resisters of wind storms. The single straw of this renowned variety of oats contain a "great" many berries. It is the average number of berries to the stalk that counts. The Great Dakota has the average that makes it possible for them to outyield all others. IT IS THESE CHARACTERISTICS THAT ENABLE THEM TO GIVE THE "GREATEST" AND BEST SATISFACTION TO THE GROWER.

Oat prices, see next page.

We secure large yields. You can do so.

are sold out of all varieties of

1 Gorn

Silver Mine Oats.

These peerless white oats are extremely popular throughout lowa and Illinois. They are of medium height with very heavy straw and an extraordinary large number of oats in a single head.

THE THICK, STRONG STRAW STANDS STRAIGHT EVEN IN WET AND WINDY SEASONS.

The berries are plump and of good length, making them very heavy in weight. The bright lustre of these oats renders them very marketable, and they will often grade when others do not.

AS A YIELDER THEY HAVE NO SUPERIOR.

Oats are not a profitable crop unless they yield more than 60 bushels every time. One of the greatest risks a farmer takes is on his oats. Why don't you make yourself safe and secure by sowing Silver Mine Oats? WITH PROPER HANDLING THEY ARE CERTAIN MONEY EARNERS.

Gold Mine Oats.

This is a medium early variety of white oats. The berries are large and plump with a golden cast. Taking everything into consideration this will certainly be a valuable variety to grow. These oats stool very well and have a strong straw and are not inclined to lodge. They attain better results at a better time for most purposes than all other oats. The height of Gold Mine is not very great but the straw is thick and carries a large number of broad leaves.

THE QUALITY MOST DESIRED IN OATS IS YIELD.

Although the size of these oats is not extraordinary the weight and heading are such that yield is the quality most marked in the Gold Mine.

PRICES FOR SEED OATS:

Any variety, 1 to 10 bushels, - - - 75 cents per bushel of 32 pounds.

Any variety, 10 or more bushels, - - - 60 cents per bushel of 32 pounds.

Bags free.

RED CLOVER SEED. We make a specialty of Red Clover. Home grown and recleaned, pure and plump. Continuous labor and care of our Clover fields renders our position unique in the production of Pure Clover Seed. The great pains taken in procuring and storing this seed enables us to insure its germination. Send to U. S. Department of Agriculture for free Bulletin No. 123. "Red Clover Seed. Information for the Purchaser." Some grades of Red Clover seed can be purchased cheaper than ours but the cheapest is often the dearest. It always pays to buy the best. Being farmers ourselves we realize the importance of sowing Pure Clover Seed of high germination. More farms are polluted with the weed seeds contained in Clover seed than in any other way. As the market value of Clover fluctuates we will quote prices on application. A test for purity of a sample of our Clover Seed is as follows:

94.64% Pure Red Clover Seed, 5.12% Inert Matter, .24% Foreign Seeds,

100. %

TIMOTHY SEED. Pure Timothy, home grown and recleaned, grown in fields free from noxious weeds. Timothy seed often contains dead seeds. Be sure you buy fresh seed of high germination. We offer a choice grade of Timothy seed. Prices on application.

FARM SEEDS. We offer a full line of farm and field seeds of standard varieties, of high grade and quality, including the following:

SOY BEANS, Medium Early Yellow or Green—One peck 75c, one-half bushel \$1.25, one bushel \$2.25.

COW PEAS, Whippoorwill......—One peck 75c, one-half bushel 1.25, one bushel 2.25.

"New Era....—One bushel \$3.00.

CANADA FIELD PEAS...—One peck 50c, one-half bushel 1.25, one bushel 1.75.

MILLET, RYE, BLUE GRASS, LAWN GRASS and many other varieties.

Prices and samples on application. Bags 15c.

Send to U. S. Department of Agriculture for Free Bulletins- No. 58, on Soy Beans; No. 89, on Cow Peas; No. 101 on Millets.

Vegetable and Flower Seeds.

Having received many inquiries from our patrons during the past season for Vegetable and Flower Seeds, we have added a new department to our business, and are prepared to furnish a carefully tested and selected stock at reasonable prices, and which we feel confident will please our customers.

In our selection of the various varieties here enumerated, we have endeavored to select only those which we have found by actual experience to be the best suited for general cultivation.

OUR PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE on Packets, Ounces, Quarter-Pounds and Pounds of VEGETABLE and FLOWER SEEDS.
OUR PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE POSTAGE on Pints, Quarts and larger amounts of BEANS, PEAS, SWEET and FIELD CORN, nor on amounts larger than one Pound, except where it is marked otherwise.

In ordering pints and quarts of Peas, Beans and Sweet Corn, to be sent by mail, add 10 cts. per pint and 15 cts. per quart for postage. While we exercise the greatest care to have our seeds pure, true and reliable, we do not give any warranty, expressed or implied. It is seeds are not fully satisfactory they MUST be returned to us AT ONCE, at our expense, and the money that has been paid for the same will be refunded.

BEANS. Dwarf Stringless Wax Sorts.	Pkt.	Pint	Qt.	Peck	CAULIFLOWER.	Lb.
Challenge Black Wax	(),	5.20	. 20	1.50 1.85 1.85	Model (extra early)	
Dwarf or Snap Green Pods.					Golden Self Blanching05 .30 1.00	3.50
Burpee's Stringless Green Pod Extra Early Red Valentine Early Yellow Long Six Weeks Red Kidney	. 0.) . 10 5 . 20	. 25	1.10	White Plume .05 .35 .60 Giant Pascal .05 .30 .50 New Rose .05 .30 .85	2.00 1.75 3.00
Dwarf or Bush Llma.	1				CORN—Sweet.)t.
Burpee's	10	.25	. 30	1.85	CORN—Sweet.	0
Henderson's	10	.25	.30	1.75	Peep O'Day (the earliest of all)	. 25
Pole.			1		Early Sheffield 10.20	. 25
Cut Short or Corn Hill Dutch Case Knife King of the Garden Lima	0	5.25	. 30	1.60	Country Gentleman	. 25
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BEETS. Garden Varieties.	Pkt.	Oz.	74 lb.	Lb.	CUCUMBER.	1.1
Sterling (very fine) Market Gardeners Crosby's Egyptian Early Edmunds	.05	.10 .10 .10 .10	.25 .25 .20	.60	Chicago Pickling 05 .15 .50 Fordhook Pickling .05 .15 .50 Long Green .05 .15 .50	2.00 2.00 2.00 1.75 1.75
For Stock Feeding.						1.60
Mammoth Long Red		.10	.15	.35	EGG PLANT.	
Golden Tankard		.10	.15	. 35	New York Improved	3.00
CABBAGE.	1				Mammoth Purple	3.50
Washington Wakefield				3.00	KALE.	
Early Jersey Wakefield				2.50	Dwarf German Green	.75
The Holland	[.05]	. 25 . 25 . 20	. 75	$\frac{2.75}{2.50}$	LETTUCE.	
CARROT.	1.00	. 20	. 00	2.00	Sterling	1.00
Early Scarlet Horn Ox Heart or Guerande Chantenay Danvers Half Long	0.05 0.05	.10 .10 .10	.30	1.00 1.00 .90 .85	Grand Rapids .05 .10 .30 Simpson (black seed) .05 .10 .30 Hanson .05 .10 .30	1.00 1.25 1.00 1.00

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While we exercise the greatest care to have our seeds pure, true and reliable, we do not give any warranty, expressed or implied. If the seeds are not fully satisfactory they MUST be returned to us AT ONCB, at our expense, and the money will be refunded.

VERY IMPORTANT.—Write your name very plainly and give your Postoffice, County and State in full every time. No goods sent C.O.D. Loose money is not safe. Please do not send personal checks.

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Tummit (earliest)	Purple Top Strap Leaved		10 -05 05 05 05 05 05 05 005 005	.20 .25 .00 .75 .00 .15 .15 .40 .35 .15	.50 - - - - 2.00
Tummit (earliest)	Purple Top Strap Leaved The strap Leaved FLOWER SEEDS FLOWER SEEDS Ageratum Alyssum Sweet Aster Imperial Mixed Balsam Imperial Mixed Candytuft White Dianthus Mixed Eschscholtzia Four O'clock Mixed Hollyhock Finest Mixed Larkspur Mignonette Choice Mixed Nasturtium Imperial Mixed Pansy Finest Mixed		10 23 205 205 205 205 205 205 205 205	.20 .25 .00 .75 .15 .40 .35 .15	.50 - - - 2.00 1.50
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Tummit (earliest)	Purple Top Strap Leaved	.05	10 -05 05 05 05 10 05 05 005 005 00	.20 	.50
Tummit (earliest)	Purple Top Strap Leaved The strap Leaved FLOWER SEEDS FLOWER SEEDS Ageratum Alyssum Sweet Aster Imperial Mixed Balsam Imperial Mixed Candytuft White Dianthus Mixed Eschscholtzia Four O'clock Mixed Hollyhock Finest Mixed Larkspur Mignonette Choice Mixed Nasturtium Imperial Mixed Pansy Finest Mixed Petunia Finest Mixed Petunia Finest Mixed Phlox Drummondii Splendid Mixed Ricinus (Castor Bean) Sweet Pea Imperial Mixed Sweet Pea Imperial Mixed Sweet Pea Imperial Mixed Sweet Pea Imperial Mixed	.05.	10 	.20 .25 .00 .35 .15 .40 .35 .15 .20 .10 .10	.50
Tummit (earliest) 10 .25 .30 l .6 Seddy Roosevelt (new) 10 .25 .30 l .7 Alaska 10 .25 .30 l .7 Alaska 10 .25 .30 l .7 American Wonder 10 .25 .30 l .7 Gradus 10 .30 .50 3.6 Horsford's Market Garden 10 .25 .25 l .7 Stratagem 10 .25 .30 l .6 PEPPER 2	Purple Top Strap Leaved		10 	.20 	.50
Tummit (earliest) 10 .25 .30 l .6 Seddy Roosevelt (new) 10 .25 .30 l .7 Alaska 10 .25 .30 l .7 American Wonder 10 .25 .30 l .7 Gradus 10 .30 .50 3.6 Horsford's Market Garden 10 .25 .25 l .7 Stratagem 10 .25 .30 l .6 PEPPER 10 .25 .30 l .6 PEPPER 10 .25 .30 l .6 PEPPER 10 .25 .30 l .6 PUMPKIN. Sweet or Sugar05 .10 .25 .75 2 .7 Connecticut Field05 .10 .25 .7 Connecticut Field05 .10 .25 .7 Cheese or Kentucky Field05 .10 .20 .7 Mammoth Prize05 .10 .20 .7 RADISH. Early Scarlet Turnip White Tipped .05 .10 .25 .7 Ba	Purple Top Strap Leaved	.05.	10 	.20 .25 .00 .00 .75 .50 .15 .40 .35 .15 .20 .10 .10 .10 .10 .10 .10 .10 .1	.50



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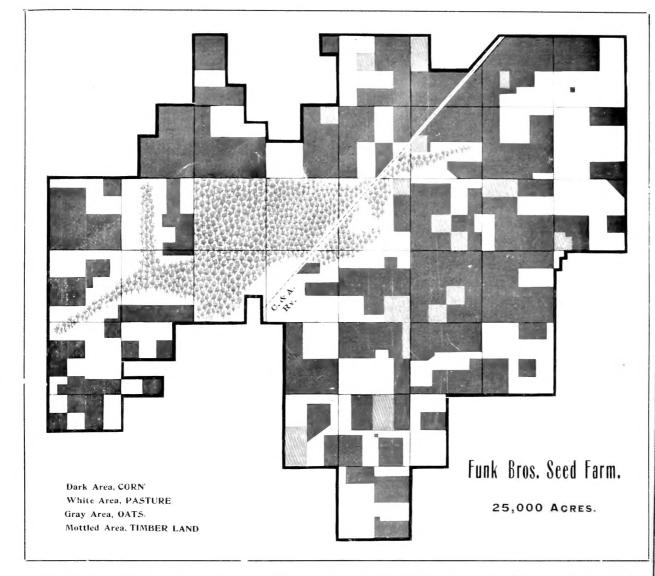
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